

# Big Bend

## Ranger Programs

National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

Big Bend National Park  
Rio Grande Wild & Scenic River



**October 2 – 15, 2016**

### Sunday, October 2

**9:30 AM Guided Walk – “Getting to Know the Agaves”** Big Bend is home to a variety of species in the Agave family. Found throughout the park, they have played a major role in the lives of both humans and animals. Join Ranger J. Jurado for a closer look at some of these unique plants. Meet at the Panther Junction Visitor Center. Easy walk on the Panther Path. 45 minutes.

### Tuesday, October 4

**9:30 AM Guided Walk – “Building the Big Bend”** Geology doesn't have to be a quagmire of cryptic terms. Join Ranger J. Fenstermacher to learn some basic concepts and the events that have shaped the Big Bend. If you're curious about how the Chisos Basin formed or the history behind some of its conspicuous formations, be sure to go along. Meet at the Window View trailhead in the Chisos Basin. Bring water, a hat, and good walking shoes. 1/3 mile walk. 1 hour.

### Friday, October 7

**9:30 AM Guided Walk -- “History Beneath Your Feet”** Big Bend is rich with history, including the very trails we hike on. Join Ranger A. Marini to learn more about what the Civilian Conservation Corps built and how we maintain these hiking trails using similar tools and construction methods. Meet at the Lost Mine trailhead. Bring water, a hat, and wear good hiking shoes. 1.5 miles. 1 hour.

### Saturday, October 8

**10 AM to 3 PM Event – “Good Neighbor Day”** Boquillas del Carmen is hosting a Good Neighbor Day event, including dedication of their new mural, folklórico dances, live music, donkey races, and craft shows. The Boquillas Port of Entry is open 9 am to 6 pm. Passports or passport cards are required for border crossing.

### Sunday, October 9

**9:30 AM Guided Walk – “Life at the Windmill”** The desert may seem to be an impossible place to live but a significant number of living things thrive in this extreme environment. Join Ranger B. Smith for an hour of discovery and exploration into the secret, and not so secret, stories of life at the windmill. Meet at Dugout Wells, six miles south of Panther Junction Visitor Center. Bring water and a hat. ¼ mile. 1 hour.

### Monday, October 10 – Columbus Day

**9:30 AM Guided Walk – “Strategies for Survival”** Our local environment may seem a less than ideal place to call home, but organisms – from ants to bears, even lichens – have developed creative ways to survive. Join Ranger J. Fenstermacher to learn about nature's perspective on the secrets to survival. Meet at the Window View trailhead in the Chisos Basin. Bring water, a hat, and good walking shoes. 1/3 mile walk. 1 hour.

### Friday, October 14

**9:30 AM Guided Walk – “Meeting Mulciber”** Who is Mulciber and what does he have to do with the Chisos Mountains? Join Ranger B. Smith to meet Mulciber and discover his part in the geology of these desert peaks. Meet at the Lost Mine Trailhead. Bring water, a hat, and good walking shoes. 1.5 miles. 1.5 hours.

### Saturday, October 15

**9:30 AM Program – “The Desert: It Wants to Kill You”** Big Bend can be a dangerous place to visit, but don't let that scare you from exploring the park and having fun. Join Ranger A. Marini to learn about the dangers of the desert and what you can do to stay safe and keep the park wild. Meet at the patio outside the Chisos Mountains Lodge. Wheelchair accessible. 1 hour.

### **Not able to attend a program? Consider these alternatives:**

The 22-mile-long Ross Maxwell Scenic Drive offers access to eight different trails, several scenic vistas, many paved pullouts with exhibits that highlight park geology and cultural history, and culminates at the Castolon Historic District. Take a day and go explore!

Enjoy the breath-taking beauty of Big Bend National Park in cool air conditioned comfort with our 22-minute Park Orientation film. Available daily on request at the Panther Junction Visitor Center.

Explore beyond the park and learn more about Big Bend history. The Terlingua Ghost Town offers several restaurants and stores, as well as a self-guiding tour of the old quicksilver mining district and historic cemetery.